

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated July 09, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this response, claims 1-5 are hereby amended without adding new matter. Claims 6-10, 14 and 20 are canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 11-13, 15-16 and 19 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-16 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. By this response, claim 1 is amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection should be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 1-16 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,724,110 to Majima (hereinafter "Majima"). The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 11-13, 15-16 and 19, as amended, are allowable in that each of the claims recites a combination of elements, including, for example, "forming a UV sealant on a first substrate, ... wherein ... at least one dummy sealant pattern, formed in a closed pattern, surrounding the plurality of main sealant patterns; dropping a plurality of droplets of liquid crystal onto a second substrate, wherein the dropped plurality of droplets of liquid crystal on the second substrate are separated from the UV sealant on the first substrate" and "wherein the masking regions are regions where the dummy sealant pattern and scribing lines are crossed and wherein the masking regions in the dummy sealant pattern is not cured and are separated from each other." Majima does not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

In particular, in the claimed invention, the dropped plurality of droplets of liquid crystal on the second substrate are separated from the UV sealant on the first substrate. However, Majima discloses that a mixture 15 of photocurable resin and liquid crystal material are prepared by mixing and then the mixture 15 dropped at a central area of one of the base substrate 1 and 1', but does not disclose the above features of the present invention. Also, Majima fails to disclose at least one dummy sealant pattern, formed in a closed pattern, surrounding the plurality of main sealant patterns as claimed. Further, Majima fails to disclose that masking regions, not cured, are regions where the dummy sealant pattern and scribing lines are crossed and are separated from each other as claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5, 11-13, 15-16 and 19.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Application No.: 10/735,730
Amendment dated October 9, 2008
Response to Office Action dated July 9, 2008

Docket No.: 8734.049.C1

Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: October 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By Valerie P. Hayes ^{Reg. No.} 53,005
for Eric J. Nuss
Registration No.: 40,106
McKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorneys for Applicant